

### Nā Kumu Ulana Bios 2018

- **Barbara Watanabe**

Barbara was born and resides in Kona, HI. As a child, she learned to weave baskets, fans and lauhala house slippers from her grandmother. Barbara has been weaving pāpale with Ed Kaneko, Jim Skibby and Josephine Fergerstrom for the past 8 years and is grateful for the knowledge that has been passed down to her.

- **Caroline Affonso**

Caroline was born in Honolulu and now resides in Kapahulu, O’ahu. She is a retired social worker with public safety and presently engages in “life, love, laughter and ulana, ulana, ulana!” Caroline has been weaving since 1998 with her kumu Gladys Kukana Grace. When she weaves a pāpale for someone special, she can hear Aunty Gladys saying, “Think of the person as you ulana...”

- **Debbie Toko**

Debbie was born in Sagami-hara, Japan and now resides as a part time taro farmer in Waipi’o Valley, HI. She is a healer, practitioner of acupuncture and massage therapy. She began weaving lauhala in 1998 with Kia Fronda. Her kumu were Margaret Lovett, Gladys Grace, Elizabeth Maluihi Lee, Peter Park and Pohaku Kaho’ohanohano.

- **Dee Shimabukuro**

Dee is from Honoka’ā, Hawai’i. She began weaving in 1972 in classes sponsored by Queen Emma Civic Club and taught by Elaine Mulaney. After a break from weaving, she continued in 1999 with an apprenticeship under Lily Sugahara through the State Foundation on Culture and Arts Program. She enjoys sharing what she has learned just as nā kumu before her did.

- **Gregory George “Gigi” Gomes**

Gigi was born in his grandfather’s car on the way to Lahaina Hospital. He grew up in Honolua Camp at a place called Kauiki Point and attended Honolua School. Gigi learned to make nets at the age of 9 from his grandfather Rev. John Kukahiko. He learned to make different nets specific to the fish to be caught. He can make throw net, crab, lobster, lay and other types of nets.

- **Hulali Jewell**

Hulali discovered lauhala weaving at Pu’uhonua o Hōnaunau and later began weaving with Kona weavers Josephine Fergerstrom, Ed Kaneko, Peter Park, Alice Kawamoto, Naomi Aiu, Fanny and Sam Au Hoy and Art Murata. Ed Kaneko told her she needed to make 10 piko before he would teach her the pāpale. She finally made her fist pāpale, quickly made 8 more and never stopped.

# OLA I KA PŪ HALA

## WEAVING CONFERENCE

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- **Karen Hasegawa**

Karen is from Kona, HI. Her grandmother was a weaver as well as her mother so weaving is in her blood. As a child, she remembers watching them weave and later learned to weave from her mother Daisy Hasegawa. She later learned weaving from Josephine Fergerstrom, Ed Kaneko and Jim Skibby.

- **Kathy Walsh**

Kathy was born in San Jose, CA and now resides in Mountain View. She provides support to children at Kea'au Elementary School as an educational assistant. Kathy has been weaving since 1985 and keeps a photo of her kumu hanging where she can view it everyday because her kumu has been such an influential part of her life.

- **Katie Lowrey**

Katie was born in Manoa Valley, O'ahu and now resides in Hakalau, Hawai'i. She has been weaving since 1980 when she learned from Leona Kamoku of Keaukaha. Since then Katie has had many wonderful Kumu who have touched her heart deeply including Lily Sugahara, Elizabeth Maluihi Lee, Gladys Grace, Minnie Ka'awaloa, Margaret Lovett, Peter Park and more.

- **Kekai Kapu and Colleen Kapu**

Kekai and Colleen have been artisans and cultural practitioners for the past 25 years. Married for 40 years, they are blessed with 4 children and 19 grandchildren. Colleen was born and raised on Kaua'i while Kekai has roots on Maui. They currently reside in Kula, Maui. Kekai and Colleen are skilled crafters, teachers and experienced weavers working with 'aha, lauhala and 'ie'ie making hīna'i, fish traps and jewelry.

- **Ku'ulei Morales Becklund**

Ku'ulei was born and raised in Honolulu, HI. She was the 8<sup>th</sup> child of 11 children to Martha Kalahiki and Alfred Carvalho Morales. During a family reunion in 1985, Ku'ulei's sister taught her how to weave a bracelet. In the tradition of her Tutu Lady, Ku'ulei embraced weaving techniques and continues to weave.

- **Ku'uipo Kalahiki-Morales**

Ku'uipo first learned traditional Hawaiian weaving as a child and has been an instructor of Hawaiian arts for over 18 years. She spent her childhood in Ko'olau Poko, Kahalu'u, Oahu. Her Tutu Lady was a weaver of lauhala and like the weavers of old, had a pū hala growing outside her home. It was there that the deep love of weaving was sparked and burns strong to this day.

# OLA I KA PŪ HALA

## WEAVING CONFERENCE

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- **Lloyd Kumulā'au Sing and May Haunani Balino-Sing**

Kumulā'au and Haunani are passionate Hawaiian cultural educators who combined have over 40 years teaching in the community. Mentored under the guidance of master weaver Raymond K. Nakama, Kumulā'au has mastered the art of ulana 'ie'ie and over the years taught Haunani to weave 'ie'ie rootlets to recreate the many beautiful forms attributed to this style of weaving. Working a business together as Ke Kumu Hawai'i, the Sings continue to teach haumāna of all ages ulana 'ie and other Hawaiian material culture arts. "We are very excited and honored to share space, 'ike and participate in this first inaugural weaving conference."

- **Lola Spencer**

Lola was born in Hilo and resides in Ho'olehua, Moloka'i. She is an all around yard lady, farmer and housewife but most of all, she is a weaver. Lola began weaving in 1989 via a public school night class and later began weaving with Gladys Grace and went through the State Foundation for Culture and Arts program. For Lola, weaving is a lifestyle and she is surrounded by lauhala.

- **Marcia Omura**

Marcia was born and raised on O'ahu and still resides in Niu Valley. She started hat weaving in 1980 with Gladys Kukana Grace and continued to weave with her until her passing in 2013. Marcia loves handling pāpale lauhala samples of old, looking at old photos and movies so that she can learn from them and then try to replicate what she has experienced.

- **Margaret Lovett**

Margaret resides in Kapa'a on the island of Kaua'i. She has been weaving lauhala for 30 years and feels lucky to have had learned from master hat weavers Esther Makua'ole, Elizabeth Lee and Gladys Grace. Margaret has a passion for teaching lauhala weaving and loves to create pāpale for people to wear and for exhibition.

- **Michael Naho'opi'i**

Michael was born and raised in Kaimuki, O'ahu and attended Kamehameha Schools and the US Naval Academy. As a cultural practitioner, Michael 'uniki as an 'ōlapa (hula dancer) as well as mo'olono (keeper of Makahiki ceremonies) for Kaho'olawe. He is a lauhala weaver specializing in pāpale and jewelry and has studied under Gladys Grace and other kumu ulana lauhala.

# OLA I KA PŪ HALA

## WEAVING CONFERENCE

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- **Michele Zane-Faridi**

Michele was born in Honolulu but is now a resident of Keaukaha, Hilo and is the CEO of a local retail business called Hana Hou. Weaving for approximately 20 years, Michele credits the following kumu for her learning: Leona Kamoku, Hanna Acia, Gladys Grace, Debbie Tuzon, Lynn HamYoung and Margaret Lovett. In return, she is committed to perpetuate the tradition.

- **Pualani Muraki**

Pualani was born in Lehu'ula and resides at Holualoa makai, Kona. Pualani has been weaving since birth, her first kumu her beloved mom, Frances Kia Agustin. Her other kumu include: Mrs. Uemura, Ginger Alexander, Kia Fronda, Maile Baird, Debbie Toko, Margaret Lovett, Debbie Tuzon and Pohaku Kaho'ohanohano. Pualani is inspired by a beautiful day gathering hala.